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RIVERSIDE LITERATURE SERIES:

PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF TWENTY AMERICAN AUTHORS

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The Riverside Literature Series.

A LIST OF THE NEW NUMBERS FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 1887–88.

Together with a List of the Numbers already published.

HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY take pleasure in announcing that nine new numbers — comprising about 1,000 pages of the best and purest literature — will be added to the Riverside Literature Series during the next school year. The new numbers will be issued at the rate of one each month, beginning with September, 1887.

The Riverside Literature Series is the result of a desire on the part of the publishers to issue in a cheap form for school use some of the most interesting masterpieces of such writers as Longfellow, Whittier, Holmes, Lowell, Hawthorne, etc.; and the wide-spread popularity among teachers and pupils of the twenty-seven numbers already published is a sufficient guarantee that the new numbers announced here will meet with favor.

In order that the reader may be brought into the closest possible contact with the author, each masterpiece is given as it was written, unaltered and unabridged,[1] and the notes, while sufficiently helpful, are not so voluminous that the reader's mind is occupied with the editor rather than with the author.

The numbers already issued have been extensively used for the study of Language, for the study of Literature, for Supplementary Reading, and as substitutes for the graded Readers. In whatever way they may be used, the principal benefit to be derived from them will be the formation of a taste in the reader for the best and most enduring literature; this taste the pupil will carry with him when he leaves school, and it will remain through life a powerful means of self-education. An inspection of the titles of the different numbers of the series (see third and fourth cover pages) will show that it contains a pleasing variety of reading matter in Biography, History, Poetry, and Mythology.

The two *extra* numbers announced in the Prospectus are intended as aids to teachers who wish their pupils to learn about the lives of the best authors as well as their writings.

Numbers 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 31, 32, are recommended as well adapted to the tastes and capabilities of pupils of the Fourth-Reader grade.

[1] There are in the entire series perhaps half a dozen cases where a sentence has been very slightly changed in order to adapt it for use in the schoolroom; and in one case, for a similar reason, three pages of the original have been omitted.

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CONTENTS.

L. Agassiz

LOUIS AGASSIZ.

MRS. AGASSIZ when preparing the authoritative memoir of her husband, *Louis Agassiz: his Life and Correspondence*, found it agreeing perfectly with the proportions of her work to devote the first volume to his European life, the second to his American. He was educated in the Swiss parsonage where he was born May 28, 1807, and which was his home until he was ten years of age, when he was sent to school at Bienne; since he came to America in 1846, it is proper to say that his student and working life was almost exactly halved by the Atlantic.

His love of natural history, which showed itself in his childish sports and made him a miniature collector, deepened as his mind matured, and gave him so strong a bent toward university life that he persuaded his parents to postpone their design to establish him in commercial pursuit until he should first spend two additional years at the College of Lausanne. His devotion there to anatomy and kindred studies gave the slight weight that was needed to turn the scale, and at the end of his course he went to the medical school of Zurich, and thence to Heidelberg.

From Heidelberg he went to Munich, and here the studies in natural history, which he had been pursuing as collateral to his professional studies, became steadily superior; he found himself, as the saying is, and though he took his degree as doctor of medicine, he never practised — the pursuit of natural history had become his life-work. His first venture in publication, made when he was twenty-one, was a description of the Brazilian fishes brought home by Martius and Spix. It is interesting as illustrating the continuity of his life that nearly forty years afterward he should himself make explorations in Brazilian waters, and should receive an eager letter at the time from old Professor Martius who was still working at Brazilian fauna and flora.

Under what stringent conditions the young naturalist worked at his first publication! "I kept always," he says, "one and sometimes two artists in my pay: it was not easy, with an allowance of $250 a year, but they were even poorer than I, and so we managed to get along together." But that was always the way with Agassiz. He once said with epigrammatic force that he had no time to make money, and to the end of his life he spent with lavish hand every dollar which he could spare from the mere expenses of living, upon the advancement of science. When he was at the height of his fame in America, he was forced to carry on with his wife a school for girls.

He took up the study of fossil fishes, after completing his task on Brazilian fishes, and in the course of his work studied at Paris and increased the circle of his scientific friends, chief among them being Cuvier and Humboldt. In 1832 he was appointed to a chair of natural history endowed for him in the University at Neufchâtel. In 1836 he made the first of those notable visits to the Swiss Glaciers, including weeks of residence in the Alps, which resulted in his contributions to our knowledge of glacial phenomena and causes.

When he came to America, in 1846, bent on a scientific tour and with an engagement to lecture at the Lowell Institute in Boston, he was already a famous naturalist. He entered with eagerness upon explorations, but he was also captivated by the republic, and when a year or more later political disturbances in Switzerland coincided with an offer of a chair in Harvard College, he sundered his connection with Europe, and thenceforward devoted himself to his new country. By lectures, by personal association, by his zeal in founding the great Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, by expeditions, and beyond all by the enthusiasm which his noble devotion to science inspired, he made himself the great teacher of America, and from his advent may be dated the marvelous rise of interest in natural science. He died at Cambridge, December 14, 1873.

J. B. Aldrich.

THOMAS BAILEY ALDRICH.

It is often difficult to separate a man from the book which he writes in the first person; how much more when the theme is boyhood — a period which one in recollection may easily detach from consciousness, so that it seems like the experience of some one else — and when, also, the external lines of the story correspond with those of the author's personal history. At any rate *The Story of a Bad Boy* is quite commonly taken as containing Mr. Aldrich's early recollections, infused with his imagination. Perhaps the proportion of his name used in the book marks the proportion of fact in the story. He was born at Portsmouth, N. H., November 11, 1837. His father's business connections with New Orleans led to a division of life between the southern and the northern port. In winter the family made their home in New Orleans, in summer in Portsmouth. In his thirteenth year, however, the boy discontinued his southern journeys, and lived at his grandfather's until he was sixteen.

His Portsmouth life, coming in the impressionable years of his youth, has reappeared since in many forms. Under the thin disguise of Rivermouth the old town has figured not only in *The Story of a Bad Boy* but in *The Friend of My Youth*, *A Rivermouth Romance*, *Marjorie Daw*, *Prudence Palfrey*, and *The Queen of Sheba*. An illustrated article in *Harper's Magazine* a few years ago was a more direct portrait of the New Hampshire port. The romancer has used this material more constantly than the poet. Excepting the poem *Piscataqua River* and one or two slight references, little sign appears in verse that recollection of youth has furnished themes for the higher imagination.

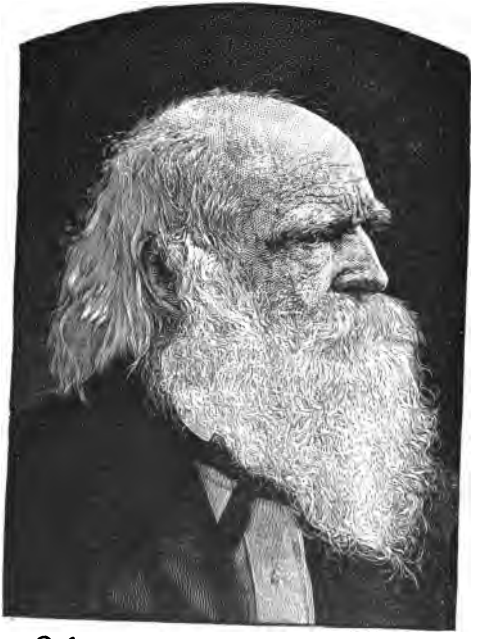
At sixteen the death of his father and attendant loss of property changed the course of the boy's life from what had been planned, and he went into the counting-room of an uncle in New York, where he passed an apprenticeship in business, winning thus an experience which an idealist often

misses. Meanwhile his literary tastes were developing, and there came the inevitable conflict between poetry and affairs. His desk in the counting-room claimed his time, but his affection and growing interest were for another kind of writing. He tried his hand at poems and newspaper work. He even managed to get a little volume of poems published, a volume so retiring that it has long disappeared from ordinary sight. After three years, however, he made a hit with a poem *Baby Bell*, which, born in the most obscure quarters of a commercial newspaper, was at once copied far and wide, and gave the young poet what is so often needed, a hearing and a distinct name. Mr. Aldrich has written since poems of far higher artistic value, but no one of them, except possibly his *Identity*, has served him so effectively.

Baby Bell with other poems was published in 1856, and during the next ten years he was engaged exclusively in literary work in New York, issuing now and then a volume, doing editorial work on various papers and sharing in the risks of one at least, *The Saturday Press*. This was his journeyman time, and in it he acquired facility, readiness, and that familiarity with the practical side of a literary life which stands one in good stead when he is relieved of the necessity of the drudgery of work and is enabled to economize his resources.

A collection of his poems had been published in 1865 by Ticknor & Fields, and when this firm projected *Every Saturday* the next year, they invited him to take charge of it. This necessitated a change of residence, and he has since resided in Boston. He continued to edit the paper as long as it lasted, and after an interval of half a dozen years succeeded Mr. Howells as editor of *The Atlantic Monthly*.

His writings are contained in a series of eight volumes. One of these, *From Ponkapog to Pesth*, consists of souvenirs of travel; but his more mature poetry gives even stronger evidence of the influence upon him of foreign art and travel. His editorial life has permitted him to reserve his power for the perfected forms of literary art.



William Cullen Bryant

WILLIAM CULLEN BRYANT.

It is a little significant that Bryant's first published poem, *The Embargo*, 1809, should have been in effect a political pamphlet. The union of politics and poetry was in the man, and that it should have appeared in literature may readily be explained by the fact that the writer was only thirteen years old at the time, having been born at Cummington, Massachusetts, November 3, 1794. The two strands were twisted into the cord of his destiny, but though Bryant's patriotism flamed forth more than once in his verse, notably in *Our Country's Call*, he never after his first trial made his poetry a mere vehicle for political doctrines.

Bryant's father was a cultivated country doctor, who looked carefully after his son's reading and sent him to begin a college education at Williams. He spent a little less than a year at college, but his father's limited income forbade further collegiate study, and he was forced to take up the study of the law, which he had chosen for his profession, and was admitted to the bar in 1815.

In boyhood, during his studies, and after he had been admitted to practice, he was constantly allured by poetry, and some of his most famous poems, including *Thanatopsis* and *To a Waterfowl*, were published at this period. In 1821 he was invited to read a poem before the Phi Beta Kappa society of Harvard College, and he read *The Ages*, a stately poem which bore witness to his lofty philosophic nature. Shortly after this he issued a small volume of poems, scarcely more than a pamphlet, and containing but eight pieces, yet every one is now a classic, and the little paper book stands chronologically at the head of American poetical literature.

When these poems appeared Bryant was married and living at Great Barrington, Massachusetts, as a young lawyer, but he had a growing distaste for the profession, with a steadily increasing absorption in literary pursuits as well as strong interest in public affairs. He spent much of his time

in periodical work, and in 1825 finally went to New York to live, and undertook the management of a monthly journal, the *New York Review*. He earned a precarious livelihood by this and miscellaneous work, but the *Review* went the way of similar ventures, and in 1826 he made a connection which in one form or other he retained the rest of his life. He became, in that year, a member of the staff of the *New York Evening Post*, and in 1829 was chief editor and part proprietor. There can be little doubt, however, that the absorbing occupation of daily journalism reduced the sum of his contributions to pure literature. Much that he did in prose after this time was in the way of relaxation, as in the letters of travel written during his several journeys and collected as *Letters from a Traveller*, *Letters from the East*, and *Letters from Spain and other Countries*.

His poetic work was infrequent. In 1842 he published *The Fountain and other Poems*, and collections of later poems were issued in 1844 and 1863. One expression of his poetic nature was in his strong love of the country and country life. He resorted frequently to the old homestead at Cummington, which came into his possession, but he created special associations with Roslyn on Long Island, an estate which he bought in 1843 and always retained. It was there in 1865 that his wife died, and in his loneliness Mr. Bryant began the translation of the Iliad of Homer as an occupation for his troubled mind. He finished this task in 1870, and followed it with a translation of the Odyssey.

He was frequently called upon to make addresses in connection with literary anniversaries. A volume of *Orations and Addresses* contains much of his work of this kind; and his last appearance in public was on the occasion of the unveiling of a bust of Mazzini in Central Park. He delivered an oration, but the exposure brought on an illness from which he died a few days after, June 12, 1878. His son-in-law, Parke Godwin, has written his life and edited his writings.

John Burroughs

JOHN BURROUGHS.

NATURE chose the spring of the year for the time of John Burroughs's birth. A little before the day when the wake-robin shows itself, that the observer might be on hand for the sight, he was born in Roxbury, New York; the precise date was April 3, 1837. Until 1863 he remained in the country about his native place, working on his father's farm, getting his schooling in the district school and neighboring academies, and taking his turn also as teacher.

His principal masters were Emerson, Thoreau, and Walt Whitman; his most congenial study what his walks in woods and fields brought to his notice of the manners and customs of birds, animals, trees, flowers, and whatever flies in the air or creeps on the earth. He began early to set down in writing the observations which he made, and these notes became the basis of his literary work.

His first magazine article, *Expression*, appeared in *The Atlantic Monthly* in 1860, and most of his contributions to literature have been in the form of papers first published in the magazines and afterwards collected into books. He more than once paid tribute to his teachers in literature. His first book, now out of print, was *Notes on Walt Whitman, as Poet and Person*, published in 1867; *Birds and Poets* contains a paper on Emerson, whom he has also treated incidentally in his paper *Matthew Arnold on Emerson and Carlyle*, contributed to *The Century Magazine* for April, 1884; and the same magazine for July, 1882, contains his paper on Thoreau.

In the autumn of 1863 he went to Washington, and in the following January entered the Treasury Department. He was for some years an assistant in the office of the Comptroller of Currency, and later chief of the organization division of that Bureau. He resigned his place in the Treasury in 1872, and was appointed receiver of a broken national bank.

Since that time his business occupation has been that of a National Bank examiner. An article contributed by him to *The Century Magazine* for March, 1881, on *Broken Banks and Lax Directors* is, perhaps, the only literary outcome of this occupation, but the keen powers of observation, trained in the field of nature, could not fail to disclose themselves in analyzing columns of figures.

While engaged upon clerkly duties in Washington, he made opportunities for acquainting himself with the aspects of nature near the capital, and his *Spring at the Capital*, *Winter Sunshine*, *A March Chronicle*, and other papers bear the fruit of his life on the Potomac. He went to England in 1871 on business for the Treasury Department, and again on his own account a dozen years later. The record of the two visits is to be found mainly in his chapters on *An October Abroad*, contained in the volume *Winter Sunshine*, and in the papers gathered into the volume *Fresh Fields*.

After leaving Washington, Mr. Burroughs bought a fruit farm at Esopus on the Hudson, and there building his house from the stones found in his fields, has given himself the best conditions for that humanizing of nature which constitutes the charm of his books. He was married in 1857 to a lady living in the New York village where he was at the time teaching. He keeps his country home the year round, only occasionally visiting New York. His work, which has long found ready acceptance both at home and abroad, is now passing into that security of fame which comes from its entrance into the school-life of American children. An account of its use in Chicago schools may be found in the introduction written by Miss Mary E. Burt, a Chicago teacher, for the collection of essays, *Birds and Bees*, published in the *Riverside Literature Series*.

J. Fenimore Cooper

JAMES FENIMORE COOPER.

In an appendix to his admirable monograph on Cooper in the *American Men of Letters* series, Professor T. R. Lounsbury has given a partial bibliography of Cooper's writings. It contains seventy titles, but it is noticeable that while a number of these indicate brief biographical, critical, or controversial contributions to magazines, the works by which Cooper's fame is kept alive are all novels, and novels on a large scale. It is a fresh reminder of the characteristics of his writings that they are leisurely narratives which have to do with large, elemental forces of nature, with the ocean, the prairie, the expansive woods. He needed plenty of space in which to turn round, and the short story did not come within the range of his art.

Yet the long list of his writings shows how industrious he was. For thirty years, from 1820 to 1850, he was putting forth books and pamphlets with but slight intervals of rest.

His first book, *Precaution*, written upon the model of current English fiction and giving little promise of his peculiar power, was written chiefly for his own amusement when he was without regular occupation. The second book, *The Spy*, which followed the next year, 1821, seems to have been a revelation to him, as well as to the world, for he at once seemed to recognize the kind of power which he possessed.

He was thirty-two years old when he thus was launched upon the literary life, and his previous training, though he was scarcely conscious of it at the time, was directly qualifying him for his best work. He was born in Burlington, N. J., September 15, 1789, but the next year his father, Judge Cooper, removed to what was then the wilderness near Otsego Lake, New York, where his pioneer efforts led to the foundation of Cooperstown. Fenimore was educated at Yale College, but in consequence of some prank was dismissed the year before his class graduated. It was decided

that he should enter the navy, but there being then no naval school, he shipped before the mast, and after thus learning the ropes, received a commission as midshipman, January 1, 1808. He had a varied experience for three years, when on January 1, 1811, he married Miss De Lancey, and finding domestic life and the service incompatible, he tendered his resignation to the government.

Until 1820, Cooper led a somewhat broken life between the neighborhood of New York and Cooperstown, living sometimes near his wife's relations, sometimes near his own. His entrance upon literature led him to take up his residence in New York, and there he stayed three or four years, publishing *The Pioneers*, *The Pilot*, *The Last of the Mohicans*, and other novels, and entering into social life. In this brief time his fame was securely established, and when he went to Europe in 1826 he went as the best known American author, unless Irving be excepted. He remained abroad with his family until 1833, and on his return made his home at Cooperstown, where he continued to live until his death September 14, 1851.

His foreign life had not weakened his patriotic feeling, but it had given him opportunities for comparison between European and American modes of thought and manners of life. He was outspoken in his criticism, and succeeded in offending both his own countrymen and foreigners; but though he excited much bitterness of speech, he held every one captive by his large-featured stories of the sea, the woods, and the prairie. He fell into controversies with his townsmen, and he was engaged in many libel suits, but he was personally a man who excited warm affection. His strong inhibition of any authoritative biography has kept his family from producing such a work; but his daughter, Susan Fenimore Cooper, has supplied, in the form of introductions to his novels, many incidents connected with his literary and domestic life. The most complete biographic study is that already referred to by Professor Lounsbury.

R. Waldo Emerson

RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

THE readers of Mr. Cabot's *A Memoir of Ralph Waldo Emerson* must have been struck by the absence of incident in Mr. Emerson's life, and by the fact that the interest, aside from the new contributions to thought, rests in what may be called the spiritual biography of the man. The external facts of his life are quickly recited. He was born in Boston, May 25, 1803; lost his father when he was eight years old, was fitted for college at the Boston Latin School, entered Harvard College, and graduated in 1821. During his college course he taught school in vacation, like other students with narrow means, and after graduation turned to school-keeping as the readiest means of support. After an interval of four years he entered the Divinity School in Cambridge, and on March 11, 1829, was ordained as colleague to the Rev Henry Ware, Jr, an eminent minister of the Unitarian denomination in Boston, who shortly after resigned leaving Emerson in sole charge. In September of the same year he married Miss Ellen Louisa Tucker. His wife died in 1831 and the next year he resigned his pastorate, from an inability to conform to the religious institutions of his church, and went to Europe to repair his broken health. He returned to America in the fall of 1833, made his home shortly after in Concord, Mass., married Miss Lydia Jackson September 14, 1835, and thenceforth led the life of a man of letters, maintaining himself chiefly by lecturing. His quiet residence in Concord was broken only by his necessary journeys as a lecturer and by two further trips to Europe. He died at Concord, April 27, 1882.

Emerson's interior history, while marked by no violent revolutions, has a great interest, by reason of the change which came over his relations to the world about him. Descended from a line of ministers, and living in a society where the clergyman was quite the only man who found opportunity for the expression of high thought, he naturally slipped into the profession of the ministry. But from the

beginning his mind was working against the limitations which he found in his profession, and at last broke bounds and left him free to utter his thought, unembarrassed by institutions and orders.

His instinct was for poetry, but his thought occupied itself about many relations of man to God which refused to be expressed only in poetic form, and his intuitions found their most natural expression in brief sentences which were grouped under general heads, and so fell into the loose structure of essays. His first printed book was *Nature*, published in 1836, his first volume of *Essays* was published in 1841, and his first collection of *Poems* in 1846. The only book of continuous prose was *English Traits*, issued in 1856. The contents of the other volumes of his collected works, which are embraced in eleven volumes in the *Riverside* edition, were in almost all cases given first as lectures and addresses, or contributed to periodicals; but even in this form they looked back to an earlier record still, in the journal which he kept and in which he set down his reflections.

Living in the seclusion of Concord, unaided by the weight of any organization, he was a power that worked as noiselessly as light. An address, now and then, like that on *The American Scholar*, given before the Phi Beta Kappa society of Harvard College in 1837, or that given to the senior class of the Divinity School in Cambridge in 1838, worked revolutions in the minds of men, and Emerson's thought on religious subjects was awaited by many in the hope that it would solve all their doubts.

He watched many movements in politics, religion, and society, and spoke his word with more or less directness, but identified himself with no organization. He was one of the first to hail Carlyle, and the life-long correspondence of the two men was published after their death. He has been the subject of much writing by men of thought, and, besides Mr. Cabot's memoir, a briefer study by Dr. Holmes has appeared in the *American Men of Letters* series.

John Fiske.

JOHN FISKE.

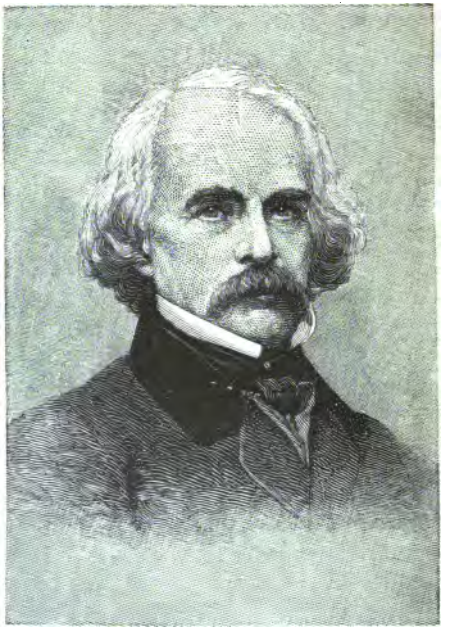
JOHN FISKE was born in Hartford, Connecticut, March 30, 1842. His name was originally Edmund Fiske Green, but on the marriage of his widowed mother to Edwin W. Stoughton, at one time the American Minister to Russia, he took the name of a great-grandfather, John Fiske. Before he was a year old he was taken to his grandmother's home in Middletown, and remained there until he entered Harvard College in 1860. His actual scholastic preparation for college may be said to have begun when he was six years old. At seven he was reading Cæsar, and had read Rollin, Josephus, and Goldsmith's Greece. Before he was eight he had read the whole of Shakespeare, and a good deal of Milton, Bunyan, and Pope. He began Greek at nine. By eleven he had read Gibbon, Robertson, and Prescott, and most of Froissart, and at the same age wrote from memory a chronological table from B. C. 1000 to A. D. 1820, filling a quarto blank book of sixty pages. At twelve he had read most of the *Collectanea Græca Majora*, by the aid of a Greek-Latin dictionary, and the next year had read the whole of Virgil, Horace, Tacitus, Sallust, and Suetonius, and much of Livy, Cicero, Ovid, Catullus, and Juvenal. At the same time he had gone through Euclid, plane and spherical trigonometry, surveying and navigation, and analytic geometry, and was well on into the differential calculus. At fifteen he could read Plato and Herodotus at sight, and was beginning German. Within the next year he was keeping his diary in Spanish, and was reading French, Italian, and Portuguese. He began Hebrew at seventeen, and took up Sanskrit the next year. Meanwhile this omnivorous reader was delving in science, getting his knowledge from books and not from the laboratory or the field. He averaged twelve hours' study daily, twelve months in the year, before he was sixteen, and afterward nearly

fifteen hours daily, working with persistent energy; yet he maintained the most robust health, and entered with enthusiasm into out-of-door life.

Such is a brief outline of Mr. Fiske's preparation for college, and it has been given in this detail, because it illustrates also his later career. His college life was simply an extension of a period of self-imposed study; he continued his linguistic pursuits so as to cover a wide range of modern languages. He spent two years at the Law School, and took his degree; but though he opened an office in Boston, he used it mainly as a convenient place in which to write for the reviews and papers. He was married while still in the Law School, and he used his pen to support his family. It was an easy passage from a nominal to a real supremacy of letters over law, and he soon threw aside the lawyer's gown.

In 1869 he gave a course of lectures on the Positive Philosophy, in Harvard University; in 1870 he filled a temporary appointment as an instructor in history; and in 1871 gave thirty-five lectures on the Doctrine of Evolution, which he afterwards expanded into his *Outlines of Cosmic Philosophy*. The next year he was made Assistant Librarian, and held the office for seven years.

Since 1879 he has severed all academic connections, except as he has been an Overseer of Harvard, and has devoted himself to writing and lecturing. He made himself known especially as a lucid expositor of Spencer and Darwin; he opened a striking vista in scientific thought in his two notable papers on *The Destiny of Man* and *The Idea of God;* and of late he has won large audiences and gathered a great company of readers, as he has expounded the philosophical characteristics of American history and institutions. His home is in Cambridge, Massachusetts.



Nath. Hawthorne.

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.

ALTHOUGH Hawthorne's life has been pretty fully illustrated by his son Julian, his son-in-law G. P. Lathrop, by Henry James, and most of all by himself in his *Note-Books*, and though critics and poets have made much of the theme, the conception of this writer as exploring the dim recesses of the human spirit has so dominated men's thoughts, that there is a common consent to regard him as a mysterious being in whom genius is such an infusing element as to render even the familiar facts of his life capable of carrying double. Yet the external incidents of his career have a very matter-of-fact sound. He was born in Salem, Massachusetts, July 4, 1804, and when he was fourteen spent a year in the country solitude of Maine, where he led a somewhat isolated life in the most impressionable period of youth. He entered Bowdoin College in 1821, and was a classmate of Longfellow. He returned to Salem after graduation in 1825, where he began to write prose tales almost as soon as Longfellow began his poetic career; but he wrote in obscurity and retirement, and when he had published his *Twice Told Tales* in 1837, the year when Longfellow took up his residence in Cambridge, he had scarcely a hearing; while the poet, who had as yet not written *A Psalm of Life* or *Hyperion*, was already looked upon as a brilliant author, and lent his voice immediately to sounding the praise of his less fortunate friend and classmate.

Two years later he was appointed by George Bancroft, then Collector of the Port of Boston, to be weigher and gauger in the Boston custom house, but was removed in 1841, when his political party went out of power, and for a short time made trial of life in the community at Brook Farm, an experience which supplied him with material for his *The Blithedale Romance* ten years later. In 1842 he married Sophia Peabody and removed to the Old Manse in Concord.

Here he continued to write sketches and stories for the poorly-paying magazines of the day, and to do task-work for publishers until 1846, when he collected his work into the volume *Mosses from an Old Manse.*

In this year he returned to Salem, where he had been appointed Surveyor of the Port, but in three years more was again deprived of office. Thrown upon his resources, he took from his drawer an unfinished romance, and in 1850 published the book which gave him immediate and lasting fame, *The Scarlet Letter.* He sought a home in the country at Lenox, in the Berkshire Hills, where he remained a year, and in that time wrote *The House of the Seven Gables*, and *The Wonder Book.* Returning to Concord, he had scarcely become wonted to the house, which he bought for his future home, when his friend Franklin Pierce, just elected President, appointed him to what was then regarded as a lucrative office, the consulate at Liverpool.

Hawthorne went to Liverpool in 1853 and held his office four years, during which time he made acquaintance with England and English life. Then he spent a year and a half on the continent, chiefly in Italy, and returned to England to complete his romance, *The Marble Faun*, which had been suggested by his stay in Rome. He returned to America and Concord in 1860, and published in the *Atlantic* a series of papers afterwards gathered into the volume *Our Old Home*, and in 1864 began in the same magazine the publication of *The Dolliver Romance.* He had written little of this work and printed less, when he died at Plymouth, New Hampshire, May 19, 1864.

Oliver Wendell Holmes.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

At the breakfast given in honor of Dr. Holmes on his seventieth birthday, President Eliot of Harvard University said: "I know him as the Professor of Anatomy and Physiology in the medical school of Harvard University for the last thirty-two years, and I know him to-day as one of the most active and hard-working of our lecturers. . . . When I read his writing I find the traces of this life-work of his on every page." Dr. Holmes he is and always will be, but how few know him in his professional guise compared with the many who know him as the wise and witty commentator on life, the poet who has touched that part of man which lies beyond reach of scalpel or drugs! President Eliot was right, however, for it is the same man who lectured on anatomy and who wrote *The Chambered Nautilus*. Yet the poetical genius was the earliest to display itself.

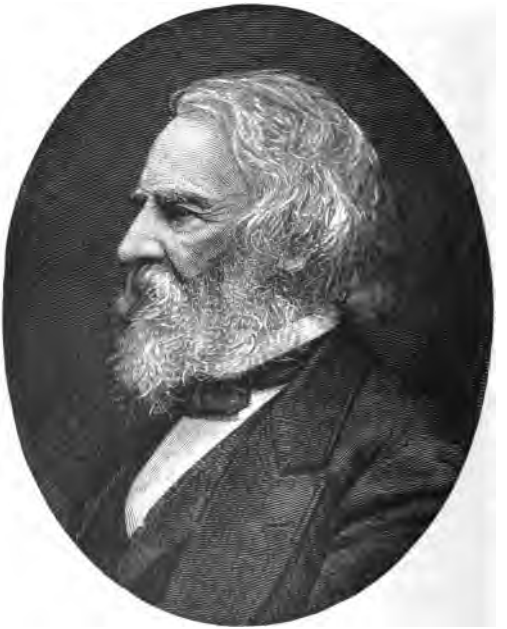
He was nineteen years old when he wrote *Old Ironsides* in 1828, for he was born August 29, 1809, in an old gambrel-roofed house in Cambridge, since removed because it stood in the light of the new law-school building. It is a pity that the young law students could not always have been reminded as they came out from the study of books, of that keen student of human nature. He was a member of Harvard College at the time when he wrote his patriotic poem, and during his undergraduate years he wrote many of the humorous poems which have made him famous.

He graduated in 1829 and took up the study of law, but shortly abandoned it for medicine, and after a course in Boston went to Paris in 1833 to perfect himself. He received his doctor's degree in 1836, and became Professor of Anatomy and Physiology in Dartmouth College in 1838. He did not remain there long, however, but married and took up the practice of medicine in Boston. In 1847, however, he received an appointment to the same chair at Har-

vard which he had held at Dartmouth, and he continued to make this professorship his occupation until 1882, when he retired from academic work.

Even when he was qualifying himself for his profession, he was winning fame as a poet. In 1836, the same year in which he took his doctor's degree, he delivered *Poetry*, a metrical essay, before the Phi Beta Kappa Society, and published the first collected edition of his poems. In 1850 he published *Astræa* and other poems, and in 1852 he gave a brilliant course of lectures on the English poets of the nineteenth century. The most interesting sign, however, of the continuity of his intellectual life is found in the fact that before he went to Europe, while he was still in the medical school, he issued in *The New England Magazine* two papers with the title *The Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table.* How much his thought had mellowed in the next twenty-five years, and yet what promise lay in the first expression of his thought, may be seen by any one who takes the trouble to compare these early papers with the famous book bearing the same title, which first saw the light in *The Atlantic Monthly*, when that magazine was started in 1857.

The *Autocrat* was followed by the *Professor*, and still the rich vein seemed unexhausted. Two novels followed, *Elsie Venner* and *The Guardian Angel*, and then *The Poet at the Breakfast Table*, with essays and poems sufficient to fill three more volumes. A memoir of his friend John Lothrop Motley grew out of a sketch for the Massachusetts Historical Society, and since severing his connection with Harvard, Dr. Holmes has published a volume on *Emerson* in the Men of Letters series; a novel, *A Mortal Antipathy;* and *Our Hundred Days in Europe*, which records in vivacious reminiscence his experience abroad, mainly in England, in the summer of 1886. It is a fresh illustration of some of Dr. Holmes's observations on the transmission of qualities, that his father should have been a notable clergyman and his son should be a learned justice.



Henry W. Longfellow

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW.

THE first piece set down in the list of Longfellow's writings is *The Battle of Lovell's Pond* in 1820. The poet was born at Portland, Maine, February 27, 1807, so that he was only thirteen years old at the time. He was a school-boy then, and in 1821 entered Bowdoin College. During the four years of his college life and the few months which intervened before he made his first journey to Europe, three prose papers and twenty-four poems found their way into print, and when he came, later on, to collect his poems, he was willing to retain seven of these earlier pieces.

He went to Europe in 1826, to qualify himself for a professorship in Bowdoin College, and remained abroad three years. Upon his return he entered upon his college duties, and in connection with them occupied himself with preparing French, Spanish, and Italian text-books. He also turned the results of his study in modern languages and literature into critical and scholarly articles for *The North American Review*, but rendered his experience of travel into more distinctly literary form in his book of European life, *Outre-Mer*.

In 1831 he was married, and in 1834 was invited to take the chair of Modern Languages in Harvard University. This sent him to Europe again, with special reference to the study of the northern literatures. His wife accompanied him, but died a few months after they left America. He spent a year only abroad this time, and when he returned, made his home in the historic house in Cambridge which had been Washington's headquarters.

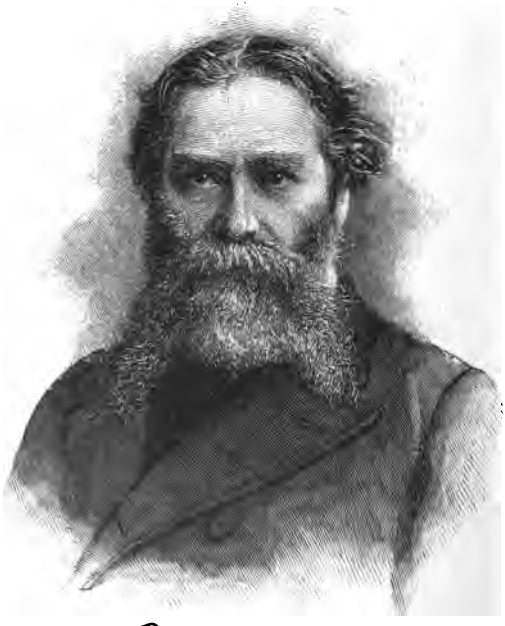
Very soon after his Cambridge life began, he resumed the writing of poetry, which, except in the form of translations, chiefly in connection with his review articles, he had abandoned since leaving America for the first time. That is, about twelve years elasped between his early poem, *Hymn of the Moravian Nuns of Bethlehem*, and the poem *Flowers*,

with which he opened his second period of poetic composition in 1837; but between his return to America after his first journey and this new poem, *Flowers*, he had written over forty translations of French, German, Spanish, Italian, Danish, and Swedish poems.

His reappearance as a poet, with *Voices of the Night*, in 1839 was almost simultaneous with his fame as a romancer in *Hyperion*, published in the same year. During the next ten years, which was also marked by a summer journey to Europe in 1842 and his marriage to Miss Appleton in 1843, there was a constant flow of verse, including such famous lyrics as *Excelsior*, *The Skeleton in Armor*, *The Village Blacksmith*, and culminating in *Evangeline*, in 1847.

Kavanagh, his last prose work, was published in 1849, just ten years after *Hyperion*, and two years later *The Golden Legend*, the first portion completed, but the second in order, in his trilogy of *Christus*. He retired from his academic work in 1854. The two or three years previous saw but few lyrics written, and his diary shows signs of weariness, but with his release from college duties came a fresh interest in poetic composition. He wrote *Hiawatha* and *The Courtship of Miles Standish*, and from the first appearance of *The Atlantic Monthly* in 1857 made frequent contributions of lyrics to its pages.

The sudden and distressing death of his wife by fire in 1861 had something of the same influence upon his work as the death of Bryant's wife had upon that poet. He had long contemplated making a translation of Dante, and had indeed made several experiments. He now took this work up as a daily consolation, and published his result finally in 1867. In 1868 he made a fourth journey to Europe, where he was received with public honors at the universities and with the most warm welcome in society. He returned to America in 1869, completed his *Christus* in 1872, and read *Morituri Salutamus* before his class at the fiftieth anniversary of their graduation in 1875. He died at Cambridge in his home, March 24, 1882.



D. N. Lowell

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

ALTHOUGH Mr. Lowell has been somewhat of a vagrant of late years, his life has been that of a student, and has been passed for the most part in the seclusion of Elmwood, Cambridge, where he was born February 21, 1819. In his *An Indian Summer Reverie* he has given a poetical, in *Cambridge Thirty Years Ago* a prose, reminiscence of the circumstances of his early life. His father was a scholarly clergyman, and the son's own tastes early showed themselves, both in prose and verse. So evenly have the two functions of critic and poet been exercised, that one is tempted to think of Mr. Lowell as distracted by the contradictory calls upon his nature; but so frequently has the scholar's gown only half concealed the poet's pipe, and so often has the poet's voice echoed against academic walls, that one is persuaded Nature has, after all, had her own way.

Mr. Lowell graduated from Harvard in 1838 and made a somewhat nominal study of the law, but his heart was in literature. He had given the class poem when he graduated, and three years later published his first volume of poems, *A Year's Life*. He started, in company with Robert Carter, a new literary magazine, *The Pioneer*, which flashed for three months. In 1844 he published his second volume of poems, *A Legend of Brittany*, *Miscellaneous Poems and Sonnets*, and in the same year married. The next year he published his first prose work, *Conversations on Some of the Old Poets*, which has long been out of print, and in 1848 he appeared in two lights, as the author of the romantic poem, *The Vision of Sir Launfal*, and of the audacious and witty survey of contemporary poets, *A Fable for Critics*, which appeared anonymously, and in which he good-humoredly flicked himself with his own whip.

Although thus far he had seemed almost wholly a scholar

and poet, he had also disclosed in prose and verse a strong ethical nature, and he had been stirred by the profound movements going on in the society about him. When, therefore, the Mexican war was imminent and after it had opened, he wrote a series of stinging satires under the general title of *The Biglow Papers*, which were a safety-valve for thousands of sensitive persons who thought with him, and wanted some vehicle for the expression of their indignation. *The Biglow Papers* gave him special distinction, but he was not diverted into political life. He went abroad for a year in 1851. After his return his wife died, leaving him with a young daughter.

In 1855 he accepted an appointment at Harvard to succeed Longfellow as Smith Professor of the French and Spanish Languages and Literatures and Professor of Belles Lettres, and retained the position for twenty years. During that time also he did special work as editor, being the first editor of *The Atlantic Monthly* and afterwards one of the two editors of *The North American Review*. His position gave him the opportunity, and the rising tide of anti-slavery principles the occasion, for much vigorous political writing. His thought in this field rose, however, to its height in the ode at the Harvard Commemoration, July 21, 1865. The war for the union called out a second series of *The Biglow Papers*, and the centennial celebrations in 1876 gave rise also to two notable odes.

In 1876 he took his first political office as Presidential Elector, and in 1877 was sent by President Hayes as minister to Spain, and transferred thence to England in 1880. Upon the change of party administration, he returned to the United States, and some of the literary record of his residence abroad was published in 1887 under the title *Democracy and other Addresses*.

Elizabeth Stuart Phelps

ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS.

Miss Phelps's immediate ancestry may naturally be regarded as determining somewhat her intellectual career. Her grandfathers on both sides of the family were Congregational ministers, her mother's father being Moses Stuart, a professor at Andover, a Hebrew scholar, and a man of marked influence upon theological study. Her father, Austin Phelps, has also had an honorable career as professor in the Andover Seminary, and is widely known for his contributions to religious and devotional literature. Her mother had an extensive reputation under her anagrammatic pseudonym of H. Trusta, and was especially known as the author of *Sunny Side*, a book which disclosed the interior life of a New England clergyman's household, and was the immediate cause of a number of books which either echoed or disputed it.

Miss Phelps, who was born in Boston, August 31, 1844, lost her mother by death when she was a child of eight, but she had already felt the influence which such a mother exerted. "I can conceive," she once wrote, "of few things more stimulating to a woman than a gifted mother — unless, indeed, it be the scholarly standards and patient instruction of such a father as my own." Her father moved to Andover to take his professorship when his daughter was four years old, so that her training was in the midst of theological and academic associations. She displayed early her talent as a story-teller, and her little circle of playmates was constantly entertained by her tales and fancies.

Her first printed piece was one written when she was thirteen years old, and published in *The Youth's Companion;* but her serious literary work began with the publication of *A Sacrifice Consumed*, in *Harper's Monthly*, and *The Tenth of January*, in *The Atlantic Monthly*, both in 1863, the forerunners of a long series of striking tales contributed to the periodicals at intervals ever since.

While she was thus engaged, a deep personal affliction set her mind upon the subject of the future life, and in 1864 she began to write a book containing her reflections and intuitions on matters connected with personal immortality, but it was not till 1868 that she published her work under the title *The Gates Ajar*. This memorable book gave occasion for a stream of criticism, favorable and unfavorable, which has continued to the present day, revived and reënforced by the successive appearance of *Beyond the Gates* and *The Gates Between*.

Miss Phelps's name was emphatically fixed in the minds of the public by these writings, and her audience has steadily enlarged. She has used the power thus acquired in calling attention to various forms of social disorder and their remedies, both through stories and through direct appeal. Her latest story, *Jack the Fisherman*, has arrested attention by its strong indirect plea for temperance.

Meanwhile, her love of story-telling has found vent, aside from her novels and stories with a purpose, in a number of entertaining tales for the young, and in her amusing chronicle, *An Old Maid's Paradise and Burglars in Paradise*. She has also published two volumes of poems, and in 1877 she delivered at *Boston University* a series of lectures upon representative modern fiction. But a delicate organization has rendered such work injudicious, and she has been forced to lead a secluded life at Andover and at her seaside home.

Horace E. Scudder

HORACE ELISHA SCUDDER.

HORACE E. SCUDDER was born in Boston, October 16, 1838, and was the youngest of a family of seven. His brother immediately older is Samuel H. Scudder, who has won distinction in science through his work in entomology, and another brother three years his senior began a strong career as a missionary in Southern India. When the boys and a still older brother were in their school-days, the part of Boston in which they lived was encroached upon by trade and a foreign population, and the Scudder family set an example to the Bodleys by moving to Roxbury and occupying what was then a large farm and pasture, but is now in the midst of a thickly settled district.

The boys went by turn to Williams College, and then the family returned to Boston to live; the youngest son, when he graduated from college in 1858, was disposed, from his interest in classical studies, to take up an academic life. There was no opportunity in his own college, however, and after a year of desultory study at home, he went to New York, where he had private pupils for three years, and occupied what leisure he found in experiments in literature. The interest which he took in some children led him to amuse himself by writing stories for their birthdays. The stories passed from hand to hand in manuscript, and in 1862 Mr. Scudder collected them into a book which was published under the title of *Seven Little People and their Friends.*

Not long after the publication of this book the sudden death of his brother David, after a few months' life in India, followed by the death of his father, led him to give up his New York life and to return to Boston, with the purpose of devoting himself exclusively to literature. His father had desired him to write a memoir of his brother, and accordingly, after bringing out a second book, rather of fancies than children's stories, *Dream Children*, he published the *Life and Letters of David Coit Scudder.*

The memorial character of this book determined him to publish it at his own risk, and he arranged for its manufacture at the Riverside Press. Just as it was in readiness for publication, and he was casting about for a suitable agent, Mr. Houghton, with whom he had been brought into acquaintance at the Press, formed a publishing partnership with Mr. Hurd, and the book was consigned to the new firm of Hurd & Houghton, and became one of their earliest issues. This circumstance led to more intimate relations. Mr. Scudder became a literary aide to the house, and when *The Riverside Magazine for Young People* was projected it was given into his charge.

He edited the magazine for the four years of its life, and from some of his contributions made a third volume for young people, *Stories from my Attic.* When the magazine was discontinued, he remained for a year with the firm, and then, with Mr. George H. Mifflin, became a partner, with the intention of having special editorial charge of the publications of the house. At the expiration of the term of partnership in 1874, he decided that his bent was too literary to permit so positive a commercial interest, and he retired from business, devoting himself thenceforth to literature.

His experience, however, in close intimacy with a growing manufacturing and publishing interest gave him special facilities for editorial work, and he has, since his separation from the firm, which afterward took the style successively of Houghton, Osgood & Co. and Houghton, Mifflin & Co., been associated with them in various enterprises. Their catalogue shows the principal list of books written and edited by him. He also has edited for Porter & Coates *Recollections of Samuel Breck*, and for Charles Scribner's Sons *Men and Manners in America.* He was one of the writers on Bryant & Gay's *History of the United States* and on the *Memorial History of Boston*, and has published with Butler, White & Butler a school history of the United States. He was married in 1873, and has since that time made his home in Cambridge.

Edmund Clarence Stedman

EDMUND CLARENCE STEDMAN.

Poets of America, a full, exact, and judicious volume, published in 1885, makes a very comprehensive survey of the development of poetry in America, and supplies what is needed to be known concerning the personality of all who have made any name in this field. If the text merely gives a name, the margin or the index furnishes the dates of birth and of death, yet both text, margin, and index are absolutely silent regarding one of the notable poets of America. It needs, in fact, that some one should do for Mr. Stedman what he has so liberally done for his fellows, and while no entire volume has yet been devoted to him, a good deal more than two pages is required to give any adequate notion of his literary life and of the contributions which he has made to American literature.

He was born at Hartford, Connecticut, October 8, 1833. If there is any truth in the saying that mind is from the mother, it is reënforced by this instance, since his mother, now Mrs. Kinney, has fine poetic endowment. It was not given to her, however, to have long and intimate association with her son in his growing years. He was placed under the guardianship of a great uncle, after his father's death, which occurred when the child was but two years old, and spent his boyhood in Norwich Town, Connecticut, where he formed that familiar acquaintance with country life which is frequently reflected in his verse. He laid there, also, under the guidance of his guardian, the foundations of that exact scholarship which enabled him later to assume labors of detail which to most men gifted with an ardent poetic temperament would be irksome in the extreme. He began, but did not finish, a college course at Yale, and in the year 1853, which was that of his college class, he had married, and was conducting a newspaper in Norwich. In 1855 he removed to New York, and for the next ten years main-

tained himself by journalism, acting during a part of the war as war-correspondent for the *New York World*. This period, in some of its phases, is reflected in his poem *Bohemia*.

His real occupation meanwhile was verse, but he had an intensity of nature which forbade him to draw a sharp line between his art and his living. In his journalistic work, he would call in the reserve force of his poetry, and his verse was frequently charged with passion excited by the scenes which were forced upon his notice by his daily duties. He was wise to see that his strong interest in literature and his love of literary art would be in constant conflict with journalistic writing, which is a dangerous rival, and he abandoned the career of an editor in 1864, preferring to take up the business of banking, which might provide the means of livelihood, and at least not usurp the power of the pen.

A generous use of books became his recreation. Literature was so antipodal to banking that it was at once a relief to plunge from business into books, and the poetic passion passed easily into a liberal regard for poetry and the poetic genius. His quick sympathy and his alertness led him into excursions which soon became systematic surveys, and in the twenty years which followed he produced two books, *Victorian Poets* and *Poets of America*, which are thorough and minute studies in the verse which has prevailed in England and America during the life of men now living. He has rendered great service to the poets whom he has so carefully set forth, and to the reader who needs a guide to the foothills of Parnassus.

Meanwhile his own volume of song has grown slowly. There is reason to believe that, with the discharge of his large critical function, the poet will resume sway, and that in the freedom from pressing care, song will be even stronger and richer.

His college afterward conferred a degree upon him of Master of Arts.

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE.

THE family of Beechers is a remarkable one, but its distinction is to be found in a single generation. Other families have been eminent in a succession of noted names along a single line. The Beechers owe their fame to a father and his children. Lyman Beecher, a sturdy preacher and vigorous leader of men, was the father of Edward, Charles, Henry Ward, Catherine, and Harriet. This last named was born in Litchfield, Connecticut, June 14, 1812. Her mother died when she was about four years of age, so that she had but few recollections of her, but these were so strong and the influence upon the family so lasting that the daughter, when she came to write *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, was moved to portray this influence in the passage where Augustine St. Clare describes his mother.

She was brought up among kinsfolk who loved books, and was made an early participant in the pleasure of Walter Scott's poetry, then taking people by storm. When she was fifteen she became an assistant in the school kept by her sister Catherine in Hartford. There she remained until she was twenty-one, when she married the Rev. Calvin E. Stowe, and went with him to live in Cincinnati, where he was a professor in the theological school of Western Reserve College.

Mrs. Stowe began early to write sketches and stories, and a collection of these under the title of *The May-Flower; or Sketches of the Descendants of the Pilgrims*, was published in 1849. In Cincinnati she found herself in the midst of anti-slavery agitation, and in a situation where she had abundant means of observing the practical results of the system of slavery. Men and women escaping from it at the peril of their lives were constantly brought to her notice, and she conceived a strong feeling of detestation for the system, and a deep conviction of its inherent immorality.

Professor Stowe changed his office for a similar one at

Andover, Massachusetts, and while living there, Mrs. Stowe wrote *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, which was published first in *The National Era*, a paper of strong anti-slavery convictions issued at the national capital, and conducted in part by the poet Whittier, who made it the vehicle for much of his poetry and prose. The story excited increasing interest as its plot was developed, and when in 1852 it appeared in book form, it rapidly grew in fame until no other book was so read and talked about. It called out so much discussion and such angry denials of its truthfulness that she prepared a volume, under the title *A Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin*, in which she collected a vast array of documents and other testimony to the accuracy of her general statements. A few years later she produced a second story of southern life under the title *Dred: a Tale of the Dismal Swamp.*

Not long after the publication of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, Mrs. Stowe went abroad with her husband and her brother Charles, and in England especially she was enthusiastically received. After her return she published a record of her travels in *Sunny Memories of Foreign Climes.*

In the productive years which followed she gave herself up to the pleasure of tasks which in any event would have occupied her. She wrote novels like *The Minister's Wooing* and *The Pearl of Orr's Island*, and racy stories like *Old Town Folks* and *Sam Lawson's Fireside Stories*, all expressive of New England life, and *Agnes of Sorrento* which drew upon her taste of Italy. She wrote essays upon domestic and social topics, like *House and Home Papers* and *Little Foxes*, strongly marked by healthful morality; and she printed occasional religious poems which have been collected into a volume, as well as a number of stories and sketches designed for young people. Of late years she has led a somewhat secluded life in her home in Hartford, varied by winters in Florida. Her husband died in 1886.

Bayard Taylor

BAYARD TAYLOR.

"I WAS born," says Bayard Taylor, not without a little irony in his voice, "the 11th of January, 1825, the year when the first locomotive successfully performed its trial trip; I am therefore just as old as the railroad." It was always an offense to him to be regarded, as so many regarded him, as a mere traveler who went whizzing over the surface of the earth. It is only fair, when judging men, to take their own ideals into account, and few men have so steadfastly looked toward the goal of poetry, under distracting influences, as Bayard Taylor. He rightly holds that in traveling his observations were those of a poet who seeks to see wholes, and not those of a statistician who is bent on discovering particulars.

The society into which he was born was that of a rich farming district in eastern Pennsylvania. Kennett Square, his birthplace, was also the seat of a Quaker community, and though Taylor's parents were not birthright Friends, they had imbibed the principles and manners of that society. Bayard Taylor himself had only slight personal sympathy with a creed which called for an abnegation of the laws of beauty, but his familiarity with its manifestations is seen in his *Home Pastorals* and in that admirable pastoral poem of *Lars* which reproduces with fidelity the surroundings of his birthplace. His early years were spent in or near Kennett Square, and when he had won fame and fortune he realized a dream which had haunted him in his travels and built Cedarcroft, a dignified mansion in the midst of a broad domain not far from the home of his youth. He left his father's house when he was nineteen years old, to take a course in the university of the world.

He crossed the ocean in the second cabin of a vessel, at a cost of twenty-four dollars, and once on the other side, made a large part of his journey on foot, supporting himself

in part by letters to American journals. He studied German, and had his first glimpse of great art in Italy. When he came home, after a two years' absence, he gathered his letters into a volume, *Views Afoot*, which at once gave him distinction, and made it possible for him, after a years' experiment with a village newspaper, to remove to New York and connect himself with the *New York Tribune*. He published now a volume of *Rhymes of Travel, Ballads and Poems*, and being sent by his paper to California during the excitement caused by the discovery of gold, he wrote a number of letters collected into the volume *Eldorado*, and one of the best reflections of the romance and adventure of that day.

He married in 1850 Mary Agnew, a friend from childhood, but at the time in a decline, so that she lived only a brief three months after their marriage. Although Bayard Taylor's fortunes were rapidly rising through journalism and authorship, his grief made him restless, and he set out on a long course of travel in Egypt and across Asia. He returned at the close of 1853, strengthened in body and with abundant material for prose and verse. He found the most lucrative employment in lecturing, and that, with a rapid succession of books of travel, became his main reliance.

His main pursuit, however, was literature, and especially poetry, and he continued to put forth volumes of verse which rose in complexity and dignity of form, culminating in *Prince Deukalion*, published shortly before his death. He made other journeys to Europe, and in 1857 married Marie Hansen, daughter of an eminent astronomer of Gotha, Germany. The crowning literary work of his life was his translation of Goethe's *Faust*, and this work, together with his broad attainments and previous diplomatic experience in Russia, pointed him out as the most fit representative of the United States in Germany, whither he went as minister plenipotentiary in 1878, only to die a few months afterward in Berlin, December 19. His *Life and Letters*, by his widow and H. E. Scudder jointly, appeared in 1884.

Henry D. Thoreau.

HENRY DAVID THOREAU.

No village of its size in the country has enjoyed so much distinction through historic and literary associations as Concord in Massachusetts. Here American farmers took arms against the British soldiery,

"And fired the shot heard round the world."

Here lived Emerson and Hawthorne, and here was born Thoreau, who made excursions from the village as far away as Canada even, but gloried in treating Concord as if it were the centre of the known world, and his hut on the shore of Walden Pond as the observatory from which to watch the star of empire. Prefacing one of his books, *Summer*, is a map of Concord for the convenience of readers, and after a long brooding over Thoreau's writings, one comes to look at Mason's Pasture and Great Meadows, and Bakeman's Pond and Fairhaven Bay and Ponkawtasset Hill as if they were the great geographical features of the inhabited globe.

Thoreau was born July 12, 1817, and graduated from Harvard College in 1837. In the same year he began to keep a journal, and the principal literary occupation of his life thereafter was to keep this journal. If one writes a little even every day, and continues the habit for twenty-five years, the total result is likely to be great. This was the case with Thoreau, and his diary did not differ greatly from that of other men, since it contained his record of what he observed and what he thought. But his observations were not so much of other men or of affairs, since he spent a great deal of his time by himself, but of what was going on about him, the world in which he lived, the world of Concord woods and fields and meadows. His reflections were those of a man who cared little for association and was jealous of his own individuality, so jealous that as he made

Concord the centre of the world, so he made his own judgment a sort of papal throne.

His professional pursuit, if he could be said to have any, was that of a land surveyor. He earned by this means what little money he required, for the most part, but his livelihood never seemed to give him much concern. If he had written his autobiography, he probably would have laid as much stress on a walk to Wachusett as some would have laid on a journey to the Himalayas. Thus when in 1839 he explored the Concord and Merrimac rivers, the voyage, made in a boat of his own construction, seemed to him important enough to have its history written, and he published in 1849 *A Week on the Concord and Merrimac Rivers*. It attracted very little attention at the time, but five years later he made his name much more distinctly known by *Walden*, which contained an account of his hermit life of a couple of years on the shores of Walden Pond. This book has become a classic, both because it describes so minutely the life in all seasons of the year above and about a little sheet of water, and because it bears the impression of a unique individuality.

These two books are the only ones by Thoreau published in his lifetime. Since his death, May 6, 1862, his occasional magazine papers have been collected and his journals drawn upon for eight volumes. One of these, *Excursions in Field and Forest*, contains a notable biographical sketch by Ralph Waldo Emerson. A fuller biography is the volume on Thoreau by F. B. Sanborn in the *American Men of Letters* series.

Yours truly
C. D. Warner

CHARLES DUDLEY WARNER.

LIKE Mr. Aldrich, who played with his boyhood in *The Story of a Bad Boy*, Mr. Warner has treated himself as a sort of third person in *Being a Boy*, the scenes of which are laid in a primitive Massachusetts country neighborhood. The place which stood for its portrait is Charlemont, near the eastern opening to the Hoosac tunnel. Here Mr. Warner spent his boyhood, removing to the place, when his father died, from Plainfield, in the same state, where he was born September 12, 1829. He was five years old when he was taken to Charlemont, and he remained there eight years, and then removed to Cazenovia, N. Y. His guardian intended him for business life, and placed him after his school days as clerk in a store, but his intellectual ambition was strong, and against all adverse fates he secured a collegiate education at Hamilton College, where he graduated in 1851. His college many years later conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Letters.

For the next half dozen years he was busy establishing himself in life, choosing the law at first as his profession, but really practising the various pursuits which should finally qualify him for his predestined vocation as a man of letters. He spent two years in frontier life with a surveying party in Missouri, mainly to secure a more robust condition of body; he lectured, did hack work, wrote letters to journals, looked wistfully at public life and oratory, opened a law office in Chicago, and took what legal business he could find.

It was while he was there living by miscellaneous ventures that J. R. Hawley, now U. S. Senator from Connecticut, was attracted by the letters which Mr. Warner was contributing to his paper, the *Hartford Press*, and invited his correspondent to remove to Hartford and become assistant editor of the paper. This was shortly before the opening of the war for the Union. When Mr. Hawley entered the

army, Mr. Warner became editor in chief; and when the *Press* became merged in the older and more substantial *Courant*, he became one of the proprietors and editors of that paper.

In that position he has ever since remained, although of late years he has been relieved from much of the office work of an editor. It was in connection with his journalistic duties that his first stroke in literature was made. He was busy with the political discussions in which the press was involved, and most of his writing was of this sort. But his morning recreation in his garden suggested to him the relief of writing playful sketches for his paper, drawn from this occupation, and the popularity attending them led to a collection of the sketches in the well-known volume *My Summer in a Garden.*

In 1868 Mr. Warner went to Europe for a year and turned his travel-experience into sketches which were gathered into *Saunterings.* This was the beginning of his more distinctly literary life. He found his pleasure as well as his recuperation thereafter chiefly in rambling and in noting men and things. His *Baddeck and That Sort of Thing*, *My Winter on the Nile*, *In the Levant*, *In the Wilderness*, *A Roundabout Journey*, and *Their Pilgrimage* bear witness to this taste. His interest in literature has always been strong, and has led him into the delivery of forcible addresses at college anniversaries and into the editorship of the *American Men of Letters* series, to which he has contributed a volume on Washington Irving, who was his first great admiration in modern literature. His interest in literature and travel has not been that of a dilettante. His humor is scarcely more prominent than his earnest thoughtfulness, and he has given practical expression to his thought in the part which he has taken in public affairs in Hartford and in the moving question of prison reform.

Adelaide L. J. Whitney.

ADELINE D. TRAIN WHITNEY.

MRS. WHITNEY was born September 15, 1824, and is the daughter of Enoch Train, who was a large shipping merchant and the founder of a line of packet-ships between Boston and Liverpool. Mrs. Whitney's early days were spent in Boston, with a year also in Northampton. She led the life of a Boston girl of the period when home associations were strong, and summer outings were made in the family carriage into the rural parts about the decorous, staid New England metropolis. In 1843 she married Mr. Seth D. Whitney of Milton, Massachusetts, and has since made her home in that town.

Mrs. Whitney published now and then a poem, but it was not until her family had grown nearly to maturity that she took up her pen for regular literary work, and she found her material in the experience and observation which had attended a devotion to family duties and a familiarity with country, especially suburban life. In 1861 she wrote *Boys at Chequasset*, but the book which called immediate attention to her insight into girl nature was *Faith Gartney's Girlhood*, which appeared in 1862. In 1864 *The Gayworthys* was published, and in 1866 *A Summer in Leslie Goldthwaite's Life*, which had previously been printed as a serial in *Our Young Folks*.

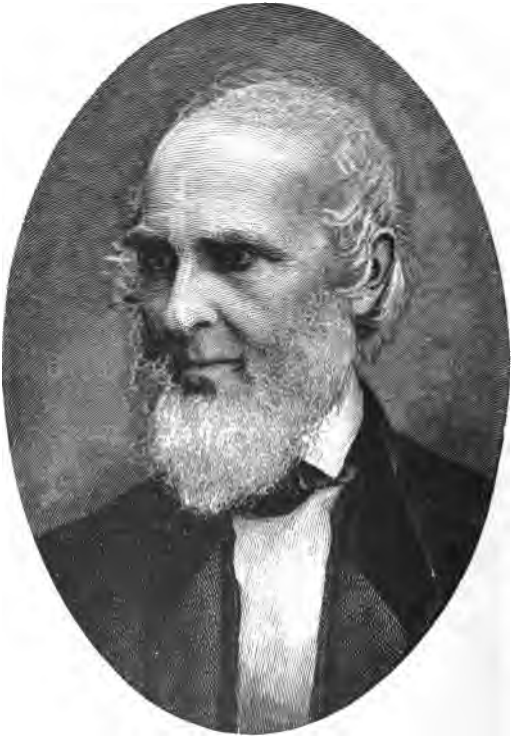
Mrs. Whitney had now won her audience and had confirmed her purpose. For a score and more of years she has been sending forth books which have for their intention the interpretation of life to those who are, in Longfellow's words, —

> Standing, with reluctant feet,
> Where the brook and river meet,
> Womanhood and childhood fleet.

Her study of girlhood, while it considers especially the social nature, is not content with results in manners and con-

ventional morality, but penetrates the deeper foundations laid in religion. She has found other expression also for her religious thought and feeling, and for her imaginative activity, in four little volumes of verse, *Daffodils*, *Pansies*, *Holy-Tides*, which contain seven songs for the church's seasons, and *Bird-Talk*.

She also sought an outlet for her lessons of life in the volume *Mother Goose for Grown Folks*, which was one of her earliest books. Her stories and novels, besides those already named, are *Hitherto: a Story of Yesterdays*, *Patience Strong's Outings*, *We Girls: a Home Story*, *Real Folks*, *The Other Girls*, *Sights and Insights*, *Odd or Even?* *Bonnyborough*, *Home-spun Yarns*, the last a collection of short stories. Mrs. Whitney has been a contributor to magazines for young people, but most of her work has appeared first in book form, and has been written in such leisure as a well-occupied domestic life permits. Her interest in household affairs is further illustrated by a little volume entitled *Just How*, a key to the cook-books. So popular are her writings, and so little has she appeared in public, that her publishers have been constrained to issue a calendar compiled from her writings, the only one thus far representing a woman author on their list.



John G. Whittier

JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER.

JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER, of Quaker birth in Puritan surroundings, was born at the homestead near Haverhill, Massachusetts, December 17, 1807. Until his eighteenth year he lived at home, working upon the farm and in the little shoemaker's shop which nearly every farm then had as a resource in the otherwise idle hours of the long winter. The manual, homely labor upon which he was employed was in part the foundation of that deep interest which the poet never has ceased to take in the toil and plain fortunes of the people. Throughout his poetry runs this golden thread of sympathy with honorable labor and enforced poverty, and many poems are directly inspired by it. While at work with his father he sent poems to the *Haverhill Gazette*, his first poem, *The Exile's Departure*, having been published in that journal June 1, 1826. Thus for more than sixty years he has been singing to his countrymen.

He had two years academic training, and occupied himself a few months in teaching; but his main support during that period when he was acquiring his position as a poet was drawn from editorial work. In 1828 he contributed to and in effect edited the *American Manufacturer*, a paper published in Boston. A year or two later he was employed as editor of the *Haverhill Gazette*, and later of the *New England Weekly Review* in Hartford, Connecticut. Then came a term of four years when he returned to his home farm, but it was followed by a new charge of the *Gazette*, and in 1838 he edited the *Pennsylvania Freeman*, which was honored by the hatred of the pro-slavery party. The hall in which the paper was published was destroyed by a mob a few months later. In 1844 he was in Lowell, writing for the *Middlesex Standard;* and in 1847 he began his most important connection with the *National Era* of Washington, a connection which, as contributor and editor, he maintained for a dozen years.

This was the last of his formal connections with journalism. By this time he had won the right to consult his own preferences and to write when and what he chose, and to use the most convenient vehicles, as indeed the best were now always at his service. He had used his opportunities well, and a large part of his prose writings, pretty much all indeed except *Leaves from Margaret Smith's Journal*, had appeared first in the several papers with which he had been connected. In these papers, and in the more exclusively anti-slavery journals, had also appeared a large portion of his verse.

His first volume, *Legends of New England in Prose and Verse*, was issued in 1831. In 1837 appeared *Poems written during the Progress of the Abolition Question in the United States, between the years 1830 and 1838.* This was a thin volume collected and issued by Isaac Knapp, Mr. Garrison's partner. The next year, however, when Mr. Whittier was in Philadelphia, a publisher of that city brought out a more substantial volume. In 1848 appeared *Voices of Freedom*, and the next year a handsome illustrated volume was published.

The greatest accession to his popularity no doubt came with the publication of *Snow Bound* in 1866, but from the appearance of his collected edition in 1857 and with the opportunity afforded by the founding of the *Atlantic Monthly* in the same year, there has been since that day a steady succession of volumes of verse, most of which have been collections of poems individually contributed to periodicals. In 1886, at the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Harvard University, he received the degree of Doctor of Laws.

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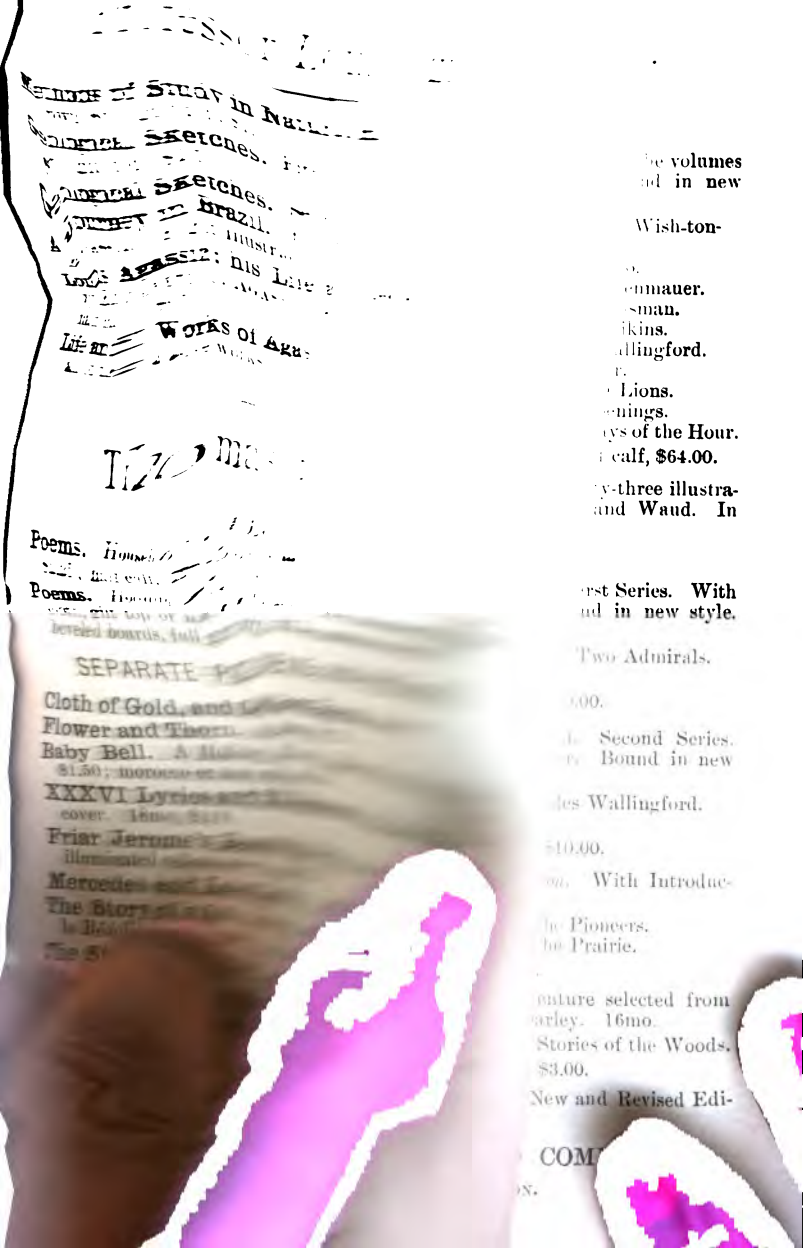

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